

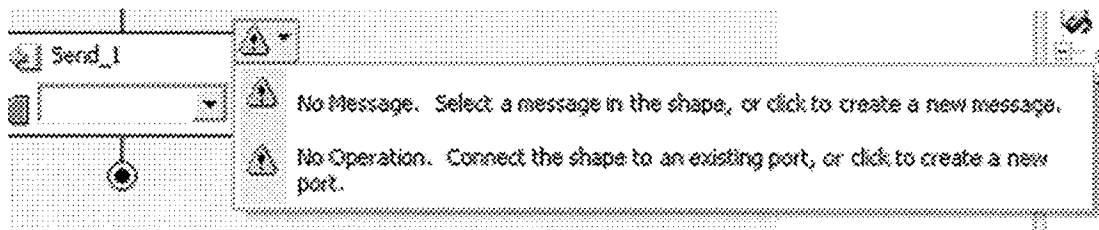
REMARKS

The Office Action mailed September 11, 2006 has been reviewed and the comments therein were carefully considered by the Applicant. Claims 1-30 are currently pending. Claims 1-30 stand rejected.

Claim Rejection Under 35 USC §102

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,225,998 ("Okita").

Claim 1 of the present application is drawn to a method of alerting a user to configuration errors of shapes representing software artifacts and displayed on a visual design surface and includes the feature of "in response to a user selecting the icon, displaying at least one proposed solution to a configuration error." Figure 5C, shown below, illustrates an icon that has been selected and proposed solutions to the configuration error.



Okita discloses a system for displaying visual primitives of a transaction flow through a transaction processing system. On page 3, the Office Action alleges that the feature of "in response to a user selecting the icon, displaying at least one proposed solution to a configuration error" is found in Okita in column 7, lines 27-31 and column 15, lines 48-66. The cited sections of Okita are provided below.

Label icons (e.g., Error and Operator) generally have a single connect point. Multiple connections can be made to or from a particular connect point (e.g., two connections to the connect point on Error connector object 504). Col. 7, lines 27-31

If a particular workflow is not complete, or contains errors, a visual indicator (or visual alert) is generated and displayed by the workflow editor. The visual indicator can be any type of highlighting, visual marker, or other visual change that affects the appearance of the workflow. For example, the incomplete

or erroneous steps or connections may be highlighted in a different color or surrounded by a bounding rectangle. The visual indicator notifies the user of the workflow editor that the workflow is incomplete and indicates the step(s) and/or connection line(s) that require additional editing. For example, if a step is missing required configuration information (e.g., an uninitialized property), a visual indicator (such as an asterisk or other symbol) is displayed within or near the step. Steps that do not require configuration will not display this visual indicator. A visual indicator may also be displayed within or near an improperly connected line or other visual primitive in the workflow. When the incomplete or improper visual primitive has been corrected, the visual indicator is removed by the workflow editor. Col. 15, lines 48-66

The Applicant respectfully submits that the cited sections of Okita, as well as the remainder of Okita and the prior art of record, make no mention of “displaying at least one proposed solution to a configuration error,” as claimed. At most, Okita discloses displaying a visual indicator to indicate that something is incomplete or needs additional editing. In contrast to what is claimed in claim 1, with the system of Okita, the user is only alerted to the existence of a problem and is not provided with any proposed solutions.

For at least this reason, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is not anticipated by Okita and is in condition for allowance. The remaining independent claims, 18, 24, 29 and 30, also include features similar to “in response to a user selecting the icon, displaying at least one proposed solution to a configuration error” and are allowable for similar reasons. The dependent claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as the claims from which they depend.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned should it be deemed necessary to facilitate prosecution of the application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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